solutions to the farmers and make available all technological information alongwith technology products for their testing and use.

(4) A project on Technology Assessment and Refinement through Institution Village Linkage Programme (IVLP) has been launched by the Council at 42 centres of SAUs and ICAR Intitutes to facilitate scientists farmer linkage.

Besides, all the SAUs have their own Directorates of Extension to undertake various activities for dissemination of technology to the farmers, which include farm advisory services, training of farmers and inservice personnel, adaptive trials on farmers' fields, field days, front-line demonstrations, kisan melas, workshops, diagnostic services, special campaigns, publication of extension literatures and technical support to TV and Radio programmes.

Rashtriya Krishi Bima Yojana

1538. SHRI C.M. IBRAHIM: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether certain State Governments, including that of Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh have requested the Central Government for increasing the Central contribution in respect of payments required to be made to the farmers afflicted with crop-failures under the Rashtriya Krishi Bima Yojana;

(b) if so, the details of the proposals made by Maharashtra and other State Governments; and

(c) Government's response thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI S.B.P.B.K. SATYANARAYANA RAO): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Some States including Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh and Maharashtra have requested the Government for changes in financial implications including increase in Central Government's contribution under National Agricultural Insurance Scheme (NAIS). These are:

1. The sharing pattern between Government of India and State Government should be continued as 2:1 as against 1:1 under NAIS.

2. The creation of "Corpus Fund" is not justifiable and may be dropped.

3. Administrative expenditure for implementation of the scheme should be borne by the Government of India.

4. The expenditure on crop cutting experiments and other incidental expenditure should be shared between Government of India and State Governments in the ratio 2:1.

5. The sunset arrangements for taking away the benefit of subsidised premium to small and marginal farmers need reconsideration.

(c) The suggestions given by the State Governments would be considered at the time of review of the scheme.

Agro Polyclinics in Maharashtra

1539. MISS. SAROJ KHAPARDE: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Agro-polyclinics are functioning in the State of Maharashtra;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Central assistance is being provided for polyclinics;

(d) if so, the details thereof for the last three years, year-wise; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefore?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI S.B.P.B.K. SATYANARAYANA RAO): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Agropolyclinics cum Farmers Training Centres are established by equipping existing State owned farms. Such Centres established so far are 56.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Not Applicable.

(e) Agropolyclinic and Farmers Training Centres are functioning under the State Sector Scheme in Maharashtra.

Vegetable Production in Kerala

1540. SHRI J. CHITHARANJAN:
SHRI C.O. POULOSE:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state: